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# THE TIMES

Oxford remembered, by  
Harold Macmillan:  
Saturday Review, page 7

## 6 pay limit is breached by JS company, Mr Foot says

ard Telephones and Cables, the wholly subsidiary of an American multinational in Britain, was named yesterday by Mr Secretary of State for Employment, as the employer to contravene the £6 pay policy. He said the company must renegotiate a pay deal it negotiated with some of its workers in Northern Ireland or face the possibility of industrial sanctions.

## Renegotiate deal or face sanctions

Routledge Government yesterday said an American multinational corporation as the first in Britain to breach the £6 pay policy, and said that the company was not a commercial sanction follow. The Secretary of State for Employment, Mr Roy Jenkins, said that the company, JS Telephones and Cables, a wholly subsidiary of an American multinational, had broken the rules of the pay policy on two occasions in the last 12 months and was in breach of the law.

The staff involved were not due for an increase until September 15, the day the company was named. The department said that if the company failed to renegotiate its pay policy, it would become liable to the sanctions on employers set out in the White Paper, *Attack on Inflation*. They prohibit employers charging more for their goods because they have paid their workers more than the policy allows, and allow for curtailment of public sector orders of equipment from such companies.

Such a move would be a serious threat to the trading prospects of Standard Telephones, which employs 40,000 people in Britain and relies on government departments and nationalised industries, such as British Rail and the Post Office, for about half its annual sales, worth £33m in this country. However, any government move to invoke commercial sanctions would almost certainly be resisted by the labour force, which is threatened by redundancies in the coming year.

The company has just announced its intention to close a factory employing 760 people at Lurgan, and wants to reduce its staff in Northern Ireland by 10 per cent. The agreement to which the department objects was signed between Standard Telephones and the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, which has been strongly opposed to the TUC-Government package, the Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union, and the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technicians, a union of which supported the £6 limit. The timing of the negotiations suggests that the two sides wanted to conclude a settlement more generous than the pay policy allows.

Mr Foot said in a Commons written reply yesterday that 95 per cent of employees covered by pay settlements made since August 1 had accepted £6 or just under, and the rest had settled at a lower figure.

## New York saved from defaulting on debts by last-minute loan from teachers' pension fund

From Peter Strafford  
New York, Oct 17

New York today avoided going into default after the closest shave since its financial difficulties began last spring. The crisis ended when the teachers' union, which had been refusing to contribute to a rescue plan for the city, changed its mind and agreed to use money from its pension fund to buy \$150m (£75m) worth of bonds issued by the Municipal Assistance Corporation.

This completed the package worked out for New York State's rescue plan last month and enabled the city to pay some \$40m of short-term notes that expired today. The agreement was announced by Mr Albert Shanker, the head of the teachers' union, after a long meeting with Mr Hugh Carey, the Governor of New York State. It put an end to a crisis that had been provoked by the teachers themselves and had tested everyone's nerves.

Mr Shanker said he had changed his mind "after a good deal of agonising and consideration of the city's dire situation". He had received assurances that no further demands would be made on the teachers' fund to contribute to the bonds.

Mr Carey emphasized that today's solution would not solve New York's longer-term difficulties. New York state, he said, would be able to meet its obligations up to December 1, but after that the welfare of the city was in the hands of the federal Government, because the state could not resolve the problem with its own resources. He would be going to Congress to make a new appeal for federal aid, with the hope that Congress would be able to persuade President Ford to change his negative attitude.

A crisis of this sort had been feared, of course, for a long time, in spite of the rescue operations that had been mounted. It was not expected so soon, however, and it came about suddenly last week, because of the refusal of the teachers to pay the bonds, in spite of their earlier agreement in principle to do so.

The teachers maintained their refusal throughout the morning.



City in debt: Mr Hugh Carey, Governor of New York State, centre, Mr Abraham Beame, Mayor of the city, right, and Mr Felix Rohatyn, chairman of the Municipal Assistance Corporation, answering questions at a press conference in New York.

In spite of pressures on them from state and city officials, the teachers were costing the city a great deal more.

The general assumption was that the teachers were acting in reaction to the budget cuts imposed on the city in recent months, although they denied this. The cuts have involved lay-offs of teachers, a general wage freeze on city employees, and even the abrogation of benefits agreed in past contract negotiations.

The question, therefore, was whether Mr Carey and Mr Shanker could reach any sort of agreement that would induce the teachers to change their minds. Frank Vogt writes from Washington: President Ford today ruled out federal aid to New York. He made it clear that his decision related not only to the sudden crisis that developed but to any new financial crisis that the city might face in the near future.

The President's blunt statement came after a series of intensive White House meetings that had been called urgently

in the early hours of this morning when it became evident that New York might not be able to meet its obligations today.

Mr Ron Nessen, the President's chief spokesman, declared: "The President will not take action to prevent a New York city default." Mr Ford believed New York State and New York City had the means to resolve the problem themselves.

The President's definite denial of aid is seen as of great importance, because within the next two months a situation will arise where the federal Government alone will have the cash that New York City needs desperately.

The teachers in New York may have staved off default for the moment but next time it is possible that President Ford will hold in his hands the destiny of America's biggest city. On today's slumping he will let New York default.

How things turned sour, page 12

## Monthly figures show curb on inflation

For the second consecutive month prices in September rose by less than 1 per cent, giving further confirmation of the slowdown in the pace of inflation, as forecast by Mr Healey, the Chancellor, in his Budget speech in April. In the first half of the year prices were rising by an average of 2.1 per cent a month. Page 15

## NHS inquiry meaningless if pay beds are excluded, doctors say

The British Medical Association said yesterday that the Government's determination to abolish private beds in National Health Service hospitals made the newly announced royal commission on the health service meaningless. Impending legislation on pay beds would be opposed "by every means". More than 160 Labour backbenchers have signed a Commons motion backing the Government's plans. Page 2

## Another big bakery cuts price

Further impetus was given to the bread price war yesterday when RHM, which produces a quarter of the bread consumed in Britain, decided to follow Associated British Foods in cutting the price of a large wrapped loaf by 4p on Monday. Page 15

## Oman launches offensive

Aircraft of the Oman Air Force attacked guerrilla positions in South Yemen yesterday and sought to block their supply route inside the country. The operation, backed by the Iranian Navy, appears to mark the final stage of operation against the leftist guerrillas. Page 4

## Brezhnev talks

Discussions resumed in Moscow between Mr Brezhnev and President Giscard after a two-day interlude caused, according to the Soviet leader, by a chill he caught on Tuesday on his way to the airport to welcome the French President. Page 4

## Baby inquiry

After a baby aged 11 months had been readmitted to hospital under a court order he died when a breathing machine failed. His mother had previously taken him home against medical advice. Page 3

## Third tape demand from Herrema kidnap gang

From Christopher Walker  
Dublin

The battle of nerves between militant republican kidnappers of Dr Hilde Herrema has intensified with a third communication from the gang.

It repeats their original and politically unacceptable demand for the release of three prisoners jailed in the Republic for terrorist offences.

As in the two previous messages, the demand is contained in a tape recording made by the kidnapped Dutch industrialist, apparently reading from a prepared script. This time, instead of being passed through any of the elaborate channels of mediation, it was dumped anonymously at a private house in a northern suburb of Dublin.

The police declined last night to give exact details of the message, but said that its authenticity had been confirmed both by the use of an agreed

code word and by executives of Dr Herrema's Dutch company, Ferrenka.

The previous tape recording by Dr Herrema because of reference to the kidnappers' threat to "off one of the feet" and said it to police if further demands for proof that he was alive were made.

The kidnappers' stubborn insistence on their demand for the release of Miss Rose Dugdale and two senior members of the Provisional IRA, Mr Kevin Mallon and Mr Jim Boyd, has only served to harden the deadlock in the saga, which has now moved into its third week.

Dr Herrema's latest message, again recorded on a cheap cassette and apparently dictated under great strain, was dated last Thursday. It was being interpreted last night as a defiant answer by the gang to the refusal by Mr Cosgrave, the

Irish Prime Minister, to offer them a deal or compromise in any form.

The kidnappers have been left in a different suburb of the city, and it is felt that the gang and their hostages would be more likely to survive so long undetected in Dublin rather than in a country district.

Because of the latest message and optimism that more regular communication might at last begin, the chief mediator, Mr Philip Flynn, a trade union

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official and Provisional Sinn Féin member, has withdrawn his previous offer.

## Healey faces loan plan

Mr Healey's financial Staff opposition is determined to force from Mr Healey of the Exchequer a statement on the Government's new borrowings to public expenditure, sure for a statement from Labour backbenchers believed that it will accept that opposition expects that it is to come from the Treasury giving up about action to curtail expenditure and control

## Promise to churches on Community Land Bill

By Our Planning Reporter

The Government undertook yesterday to consider further exemptions for churches and charities from the provisions of the Community Land Bill, now in its final parliamentary stages.

At a meeting with Mr Sillkin, Minister for Planning and Local Government, a delegation led by the Bishop of London, the Right Rev Gerald Ellison, and Sir Philip Allen, chairman of the National Council of Social Service, pressed for complete exemption from development land tax.

The exemption, announced last July, applies only to land redeveloped by a church or

charity for its own purposes, and not in cases where it is sold to an outside party.

The delegation also asked for the abolition of the distinction between land acquired before and after the day the White Paper was issued and the extension of the 10-year period during which churches and charities will receive the full market value for any land acquired by local authorities.

Mr Sillkin also told a conference of the Housebuilders' Federation in London that he would look to local authorities to set out clearly their priorities for development. He recognized the need for assurance of future land supply.

## Whitlam refusal to call election

Canberra, Oct 17.—Mr Whitlam, the Australian Prime Minister, said tonight that Australia would not call a general election.

The move is already beginning to have repercussions throughout the country. Unions are threatening to strike and some have already staged 24-hour protest stoppages. Union leaders say that action against the Opposition's move is likely to increase.

Mr Bill Hayden, the Finance Minister, has sounded a warning that government money will begin to run out towards the end of next month. Government departments have been told to stop any spending that is not absolutely essential, to assess their financial position and report to Mr Whitlam immediately.

It is the first time in the history of the Federal Parliament that any Government has been refused funds by the Opposition in an attempt to gain office.

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## Three youths are cleared of 1972 killing

Berlins respondent who was convicted in 1972 of a homosexual man yesterday when the Appeal quashed his conviction as being "unsafe and unsatisfactory".

The three youths, now aged 19, 20 and 21, were cleared of the murder of Maxwell Confair, 19, of Leighton, now 19, by a jury in the High Court of Justice in London. The Court of Appeal had referred the case, which had medical evidence at the dead man's trial, to the Court of Appeal for a second time because of the killing.



The three youths after the hearing (left to right): Colin Lattimore, Ronald Leighton and Ahmet Salih.

of eight, was made the subject of a hospital order, and was detained at Rampton hospital. Leighton was sentenced to detention at Her Majesty's pleasure. They were also convicted of a homosexual act with another youth, Ahmet Salih. Yesterday the Court of Appeal gave absolute discharges to the two youths on the arson charges, which enabled them to be freed. Mr Christopher Price, Labour

clearly demands urgent reform", he said.

Mr Price also called for an inquiry into the conduct of the police involved in the case. "It is inescapably follows from the court's verdict that a substantial number of Metropolitan Police officers must have been involved together in presenting statements to the court which fell short of the truth", he said.

A claim for compensation is to be made to the Home Office, the solicitor acting for the youths, Mr Dennis Muirhead, said after the case yesterday. He was also considering lodging a complaint against the police.

At a press conference after their release, both youths alleged that they had been pushed around and threatened by the police during their interrogation. Colin Lattimore said that he had been hit with a newspaper.

"They kept on asking me questions all the time", he said. "I was tired and frightened and I wanted to go home, so I just said 'yes' to all the questions they were asking."

Law Report, page 3

## Complaint tribunal planned in attempt to appease peers on press freedom

By Michael Hatfield  
Political Staff

The Government is to make a last-minute attempt to appease recalcitrant peers in the dispute over press freedom, which is developing into a parliamentary constitutional issue, when the matter is debated in the Lords next week.

An amendment has been tabled by the Government to the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Amendment) Bill, which is hoped will meet the objections of peers, led by Lord Goodman. They believe that the rights of editors and the freedom of access by outside contributors will be circumscribed by provisions in the Bill.

The Government has resisted the demands of peers to make a code of conduct for the newspaper industry legally binding, but has produced what it feels should be accepted as a compromise.

The proposal is for the creation of a tribunal which would hear any complaint by a person, editor or journalist, aggrieved by a failure by either to observe any provision in the proposed charter.

Ministers believe they can go no further to meet objections to the Bill and privately admit that the compromise may fail to meet the demands of Lord Goodman and his supporters.

The issue is to be debated on Monday, and Ministers yesterday were issuing threats of invoking the Parliamentary Act if the Lords rejected the compromise and the Bill.

There were even suggestions that pressures in the Labour Party would be so great that the Government would have to consider the abolition of the upper chamber rather than its reform. However, such a threat should be treated with caution and seen more as a part of the Government's battle with its opponents.

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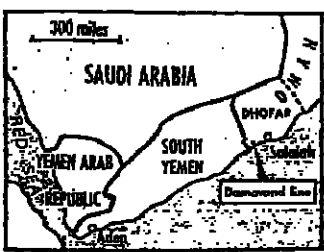
# Oman aircraft bomb South Yemen as Sultan's troops swoop down from mountains to trap guerrillas

From Simon Scott Plummer  
Salalah, Dhofar, Oct 17

Oman aircraft today struck at targets in South Yemen for the first time in three years and Government troops tightened their grip on guerrilla supply routes just inside the border.

Seven Hawker Hunters presented earlier this year by Jordan bombed targets near Hauf, the centre from which guerrilla activity in the southern province of Dhofar is organized. Military sources said the targets were two field guns, two anti-aircraft guns, the political headquarters of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman (PFLO) and a South Yemen security police barracks. A direct hit was reported on the PFLO headquarters. The air attack was supported by artillery fire from Sarfait, a 4,000ft mountain position on the border. Guns flown in by Iranian heavy-lift helicopters were used. The position has come under increasing artillery attack from South Yemen over the past year.

In a separate operation the Sultan's forces have descended



from Sarfait to block guerrilla supply routes between them and the Indian Ocean. They made the first descent down a 6,000ft cliff on Wednesday. Meeting no resistance they sent in two extra companies yesterday, and during the night moved farther down to control all enemy supply routes in the area.

According to military sources, the Oman casualties were one man killed and one slightly wounded by small arms fire. About 1,200 men were involved in the operation. The Sultan's forces believe they can now control the supply routes of donkeys and camels from getting through to guerrillas farther east.

It is thought that the descent from Sarfait could mark the final stages of the military

struggle against the guerrillas. Between 400 and 500 South Yemen regular troops and PFLO guerrillas are believed to be trapped between the frontier and the Damayand line about 20 miles to the east. This is a series of positions running from the sea into the mountains and patrolled by Iranians.

The Iranians' part in today's operation was to secure a ridge overlooking enemy supply routes near the Damayand line. They were backed by Strike Masters from the Oman Air Force, by their own artillery and by an Iranian naval detachment of three destroyers and several smaller vessels.

Iran has about 4,000 troops in Oman as well as artillery and aircraft. The Sultan's forces, consisting of about 15,000 men, are commanded above the rank of major by British officers either seconded from the British Army or on contract to the Sultan.

If today's events mark the final stage of the military campaign in Dhofar, the emphasis must now be on civil aid to the mountain people of Dhofar to reduce the likelihood of further subversion from Marxist forces in South Yemen.



Mr. Brezhnev, the Soviet party leader, and President Giscard d'Estaing, of France, exchange views.

## Soviet party leader reappears

From Edmund Stevens  
Moscow, Oct 17

The Franco-Soviet talks resumed in Moscow this morning after a strange two-day interlude. The two-hour session, virtually the only working session of the visit, wound up with a joint statement that the profound exchange of view between President Giscard d'Estaing and the Soviet leaders took place in an atmosphere of mutual comprehension. They touched upon problems of European and world

policy as well as questions concerning the development of cooperation and détente between France and the Soviet Union.

Before the session started, Mr. Brezhnev, the Soviet party leader, told correspondents he had caught a chill while driving to the airport on Tuesday to welcome President Giscard d'Estaing. He blamed an open car window. On Wednesday the chill had worsened, preventing him from performing his official duties for the next two days.

Mr. Brezhnev added cryptically that such talks always began with complications, but that President Giscard d'Estaing had been invited to Moscow to improve relations and it would

not have been worth his coming had he been quarantined. But when he arrived at the press conference, both men said the talks had gone well. Mr. Giscard d'Estaing said the way they had gone accorded with his expectations.

Mr. Brezhnev, who arrived with President Podgorny and Mr. Kosygin, the Prime Minister, at the French Embassy for lunch, when asked how he felt, said: "Do I look ill?" He added that there was too much talk about his health. It would be better to speak of other things. No question had come up in the talks that was likely to spoil relations.

Most observers allowed that Mr. Brezhnev might well have caught a chill, but that did not preclude the chill having its diplomatic uses. It served its purpose well, assuming that the purpose was to convey disapproval of some of the guest's remarks on the issue of détente and ideology.

Mr. Giscard d'Estaing reaffirmed his view in his speech at lunch. "Altering the dimensions of Franco-Soviet cooperation also changes its character," he said.

"This requires that we pay special attention to the human aspects by facilitating the activities of our businessmen, our scientists, and journalists and by developing university and tourist contacts."

At the conclusion of the talks agreements were signed between the two sides on energy and on scientific, technical and industrial cooperation in civil aviation and aeronautics. This would include French involve-

ment in the important Moscow's international There was also a cooperation in tour.

Moscow, Oct 17.—The Soviet Union's world disarmament of all nuclear power mankind of the weapons."

The joint call for peace, which would be the present disarmament in Geneva, came in declaration at the visit. The declaration elaboration of which raised serious problems the visit, was signed leaders.

## Dr Kissinger prepares Ford visit to Peking

From Our Own Correspondent  
Washington, Oct 17

Dr Henry Kissinger, the Secretary of State, left for Peking today to prepare the agenda and final dates for President Ford's visit to China, due to begin at the end of next month.

There is no inclination among officials here to accept reports from Peking that Mr Ford's visit may be postponed, even though Dr Kissinger's arrival there has been heralded by the publication of his Ottawa table talk that he believes Mr Chou En-lai, the Prime Minister, is dying.

The fact of Mr Chou's decline is, of course, at the centre of the talks, since by all accounts Dr Kissinger finds the going heavier with his deputy, Mr Teng Hsiao-ping, the acting Prime Minister. Dr Kissinger, however, has not seen Teng several times, and it is determined that the way with him for Mr Ford.

On substance, the Americans are expecting Chinese proposals for less détente with the Soviet Union. Obviously mindful of Russian sensitivity, the White House has been very prompt in denying *The New York Times* story that asserted that the outlook was gloomy for agreement with the Soviet Union on strategic arms limitation.

Dr Kissinger's public position is that agreement, outlined between Mr Ford and Mr Brezhnev, the Soviet party leader, in Vladivostok last November, is 90 per cent complete.

The White House has had some difficulty explaining why Mr Ford needs to visit China now, especially since the Chinese owe a return visit to the one paid them by President Nixon.

The strategy was to affirm the opening with the Chinese, while keeping the Russians guessing. But with Mr Ford acutely sensitive about his right flank and the coming primary election challenge from Mr Ronald Reagan, the former Governor of California, the trip is beginning to look like doubtful politics.

John Stein writes from Ottawa: Mr Allan MacEachen, External Affairs Minister, says he is "mortified" that some candidate "chit-chat" by Dr Kissinger, the United States Secretary of State, got into the newspapers.

In conversation at a dinner in his honour in Ottawa on Tuesday, Dr Kissinger described former President Nixon as an "odd" and "unpleasant" man who does not enjoy people.

He spoke fondly of the Kennedy family, and described Mrs Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis as "sexy", adding, "Jackie is a hard woman who knows what she wants."

Dr Kissinger's comments were picked up by a microphone that had been left on accidentally and recorded simultaneously. The reports were reported by a number of newspapers and radio stations.

Mr MacEachen, questioned about the incident in the Commons yesterday, said he was "quite personally mortified" and was ordering an investigation.

## Mr Smith for Pretoria

Salisbury, Oct 17.—Mr Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, will fly to Pretoria on Monday for discussions with Mr J. Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, a Government spokesman said in Salisbury tonight.

## UN staff attacked for changing resolution

From Peter Strafford  
New York, Oct 17

A diplomatic storm broke at the United Nations last night when representatives of Britain, France and the United States made a joint protest to Dr Kurt Waldheim, the Secretary-General, over the Secretary's handling of the Korean issue.

They complained that Secretary-General officials, one of whom is a Russian, had been tampering with the resolution put forward by the Americans and their supporters.

It was complained that this was not the first time that it had happened, and that Secretary-General officials had no right to do such things without consulting the countries concerned.

The change in this instance was a small one, being no more than the addition of an explanatory footnote. But it was one that might have affected the procedural wrangling that takes place over key issues of this sort, and in particular the question of which of the two resolutions on Korea has priority.

The fact that so much importance is attached to these procedural disputes reflects the tension over this year's Korea debate. Both sides have priority for their resolution because this gives a decided advantage, and could decide the outcome of the debate.

The Western resolution, tabled first, calls for the dissolution of the United Nations command in Korea provided arrangements are made to replace the terms of the armistice agreement.

The other one, put forward by the Russians, Chinese and others, calls for the dissolution of the command and the withdrawal of all foreign troops under its flag, but does not more than call on "the real parties" to the armistice to replace it with a peace agreement.

Western delegates expressed confidence today that the priority issue had not been affected by the secretary's handling of the issue. They had been assured of this, the said, by Dr Waldheim's legal advisers.

## Mr Richardson explains his role in Watergate drama

By Roger Berthoud

Mr Elliot Richardson, the United States Ambassador in London and former Attorney General, is clearly irritated by suggestions that his role in the Watergate drama was less glorious than previously depicted.

Stung by newspaper comment on references to him in the final report of the Watergate Special Prosecution Force, he issued a statement yesterday indicating that he had enjoyed good relations with the first Watergate special prosecutor, Professor Archibald Cox.

It was Mr Richardson's decision to resign as Attorney General rather than dismiss Professor Cox, which, it is claimed, enhanced Mr Richardson's reputation.

The report states that he in fact had his "own misgivings" over the way Professor Cox was broadening his inquiries, and proposed appointing a special "national security" consultant to Professor Cox as a go-between with the intelligence agencies. It recalls his suggestion that the special prosecutor should accept a "third person" version of the tapes.

Mr Richardson said yesterday that there had been various discussions with Professor Cox on matters involving the interpretation of the guidelines establishing his office, his jurisdiction and the relationship between these and the responsibilities of the Department of Justice.

All such problems were worked out at the time in a manner that I thought reflected a spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation. Certainly there was no confrontation at any point. It is my belief that this was Mr Cox's view of the situation also.

The ambassador added that he had testified fully on all this to the Senate committee on the judiciary in November 1973, and had produced copies of his notes on his conversations with Professor Cox.

At the same hearings Professor Cox stated that "the Attorney General never put any improper or even questionable pressure on me." He added: "We talked over these things as problems and tried to reason them out together." Professor Cox stated that although Mr Richardson was "caught in the middle", he was a man of honour, and their past relationship enabled them to discuss matters together candidly.

## British players fail to qualify in world chess

Barcelona, Oct 17.—Raymond Keene, of England, and S. J. Hutchings, of Wales, have failed to qualify in the European zonal chess tournament in Barcelona for the next stage of the world championship.

When the final adjourned games were finished today, Gennady Sosonko (Ukraine) emerged as the winner of the tournament with 51 points, followed by Jesús Díez del Corral (Spain) with 5. They advance to the international tournaments.

The other placings were Luděk Pachman (West Germany) 4; Keene 4; Ole Jakobsen (Denmark) 3; Hutchings and Jean Eslon (Sweden) 2; Karl Janetschek (Austria) 1.—AP.

## Czechs sentence absent US pilot to 10 years' jail

Prague, Oct 17.—Mr Barry Meeker, an American helicopter pilot who smuggled East Germans from Czechoslovakia to West Germany, was today sentenced in his absence to 10 years' jail, the Czechoslovak news agency Ceteka said.

A district court in Ceske Budejovice found him guilty of twice violating international flying regulations and leaving Czechoslovakia illegally on two occasions.

His co-pilot, Mr Tadeusz Kobrynski, a stateless Pole, was sentenced to six years' jail and a would-be East German passenger, Frau Holga Neukirchner, to three years, Ceteka said.

They were both left behind and captured on August 17 by Czechoslovak border guards who opened fire on the helicopter, forcing the pilot to take off without them. Frau Neukirchner's husband and their daughter and another East German were already on board the helicopter.

Mr Kobrynski, who is 27, was convicted of illegally entering and leaving Czechoslovakia and of attempting to leave the country illegally. Both will be expelled from Czechoslovakia after serving their sentences.

Mr Meeker, who is 33, was sentenced to serve his term in the third, strictest penal group. Mr Kobrynski in the second and Frau Neukirchner in the first, the most lenient one.

## President Peron resumes her duties

Buenos Aires, Oct 17.—

Senora Peron, the Argentine President, returned to Government House here today after a month's absence to tell a cheering crowd of party loyalists that they must support the armed forces in their fight against left-wing subversion.

"Their dead are our dead," she said in an emotional speech from a balcony of the Casa Rosada (Pink House) on the Plaza de Mayo.

Relaxed after her rest, President received a 15-minute ovation. She waved and blew kisses to the crowd at the start of her first public appearance since resuming the presidency last night.

Threats by dissident Peronist Montoneros guerrillas to disrupt the rally faded in the face of the most stringent security precautions ever seen here. Senora Peron promised a "continuing dialogue with all sectors of national life".—Reuter.

## Missing African leader's car found abandoned

Salisbury, Oct 17.—A car belonging to Dr Egon Sishole, the African nationalist official, has been found abandoned at Umtali near the border with Mozambique.

Dr Sishole, publicity secretary of Bishop Muzorewa's faction of the divided African National Congress (ANC), had been seen on the side of a Salisbury hotel on Wednesday night. His colleagues fear that he has been kidnapped.

## President Amin pays visit to Qatar

Doha, Qatar, Oct 17.—President Amin of Uganda today arrived in Doha for a two-day visit to Qatar. He flew from Saudi Arabia after a pilgrimage to Mecca.—Agence France Presse.

## Dr Sakharov appeals for amnesty

From Our Correspondent  
Copenhagen, Oct 17

A fervent appeal from Dr Andrei Sakharov, the Nobel Peace Prize winner, for a general political amnesty in the Soviet Union was read to the Sakharov hearing on human rights in the Soviet Union today.

He said an amnesty could change the moral and political climate of Russia and be a decisive factor in the relaxation of internal and external tensions.

Repressive measures against political prisoners had increased in the last few months, he said, and it was necessary for the Soviet Union to speak up on behalf of prisoners such as Leonid Plyushch, Vasily Romanov, Mustafa Dzhemilov, Vladimir Osipov, and the members of the Soviet group of Amnesty International, Sergei Kovalev and Andrei Javorkhilev, who are now awaiting trial.

The hearing began with a statement from the author Vladimir Maximov, who was unable to attend, and a report from Viktor Balashov, the secretary of the panel was read.

Boris Shragin and Dmitry Panin made statements about the harassment used by the authorities who can deprive people of work. Mr Panin and Alexander Vardy also described the indoctrination of children through literature and schooling from the earliest age.

Kenneth Gosling writes: Two women demonstrators interrupted the opening of an exhibition of Soviet art at the Royal Academy in London. They sprang on the dais and unfurled banners calling for the release of Dr Mikhail Stern, a Jewish physician who is serving an eight-year prison sentence in Russia.

The incident happened as Sir Thomas Monnington, president of the Royal Academy, was about to call on Mr Nikolai Lunov, the Soviet Ambassador, to open the exhibition of landscape masterpieces from Soviet museums.

The women, Mrs Valerie Green and Mrs Doreen Dunford, both members of the Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry, were grabbed and hustled out by the academy's security staff.

Other members of the organization paraded with banners outside the academy in Piccadilly.

A dispute soon broke out among the panel of questioners. This ended with the forcible

ejection of the Rev Michael Wurmbrand after two panel members, the Russian-French writer, Maurice Scheklovsky, and Professor Michael Bourdeau, declared that they would withdraw if he stayed.

Other differences, particularly between exiles from the Ukraine and Russia, were smoothed out through the mediation of the Danish chairmen of the hearing.

The credentials of an "anti-hearing" delegation of seven intellectuals who have come from the Soviet Union were also questioned. Jewish sources said that Rabbi Mikhail J. Mandelstam was not a rabbi at all, but a "militantly atheistic" official who had been appointed by the Soviet authorities to control activities at the Moscow synagogue.

The opening day had a more than normal element of confusion. Witnesses had to be urged to be more brief in their statements, and questioning by the panel was sporadic.

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## Kidnap deaths provoke Lebanon fighting

Beirut, Oct 17.—Troops clashed with gunmen today at the outskirts of the central Lebanese town of Zabl, local residents reported. They said one person was killed and 10 wounded.

The shooting, near the scene of gun battles between Muslims and Christians at the end of August, erupted after the discovery of four people from the bodies of four people from a truck kidnapped about a week ago.

About 20 people were kidnapped in Beirut today. Two explosions rocked a populous district of the capital. But political violence in Beirut and the northern port of Tripoli was reported on the wane.

The known death toll in the fourth round of factional fighting this year stood at about 605.

## S Africa kill seven on Angol border

Pretoria, Oct 17.—So

can troops killed seven guerrillas of the South-West People's Organisation in the Angola border defence headquarters' area today.

It was not stated where the fighting took place, but informed sources appeared that it was on the Angolan side of the border.

Defence headquarters the army action was 'up to incursions last week into South-west Africa Swapo guerrillas in which people including six policemen were killed. South Africans had destroyed two Swapo camps and military equipment. The feroz no casualties.

An earlier statement a weekend's deaths said the Swapo guerrillas had fled back into southern Angola and that the Arm been instructed to appropriate action. This taken to mean that the African troops could p Swapo incursions.

Portugal administrators A but is due to relinquish p on November 11.—Reuter.

Luanda, Oct 17.—The U States Consulate General, urged all Americans, B and Canadians to leave A as soon as possible and o to arrange air transport them.

Officials of the Popular ment for the Liberat Angola, which controls L confirmed that forces of National Front for the I tion of Angola were within miles of the capital. Bitter ing was reported to be g north-east of the city. A Agence France Presse.

## France's biggest punter shoots himself

From Richard Wigg  
Paris, Oct 17

One of the most colorful figures on the French known as "Monsieur X" his ability to mastermind ing on the tierce, the off-betting system, shot through the head today. I awaiting trial in a alleged rigging which involved several jockeys.

"Monsieur X", Paris Moutis, a brilliant musician who also won insurance, was found slumped in his home ju side Paris. He was kno France's greatest punter

## Israel orders air mechanics back to work

From Moshe Brilliant  
Tel Aviv, Oct 17

Mr Gad Yaacobi, the Minister of Transport, today authorized the issue of emergency orders calling on El Al maintenance men to call off their strike and return to work or risk prosecution.

He said the orders would be handed to workers when the Sabbath ended at sundown tomorrow. The strike over grating paralysed the airline's service. Stranded passengers were transferred to other carriers but Mr Yaacobi said the strike

harm the economy by sabotaging air links with the outside world. The General Federation of Labour did not support the strike and this allowed the minister to take administrative action.

Nearly 500 British technicians working in the Israel aircraft industry are awaiting a decision that will determine their future employment here. The men were recruited by an American company to ease the labour shortage at a plant producing aircraft, missiles and weapons.

The Defence Ministry served

notice this week that budgetary problems would cause cutbacks in orders that will mean the dismissal of 3,000 workers.

A company official said that if dismissals were necessary, the foreign technicians would be the first to go. Financial arrangements were being negotiated, however, to enable the plant to avoid the dismissals and increase production for export.

British technicians who have already been here six months can be sent home with a fortnight's notice. Those who have been here a shorter time are entitled to longer notice.

## Diplomat's wife foils abductors

Kuwait, Oct 17.—The wife of a diplomat at the Bangladesh Embassy in Kuwait was the object of a kidnap attempt near her home last night, it was reported today.

The newspaper Al Rai Al Amin said Mr Rashid Ahmed, the First Secretary, and his wife were attacked by four men while in their car outside their home. The attackers pulled Mr Ahmed from the car and tried to abduct his wife, but she managed to free herself and take refuge in the house. Mr Ahmed himself was given as the source of the information.

—Agence France Presse.

## Greek pledge on murder of Ann Chapman

From Our Correspondent  
Athens, Oct 17

The Athens court of appeal ruled today that Mr George Papadopoulos, the former dictator, had not been a legitimate President of Greece and could not therefore benefit from the constitutional immunity of a head of state.

The tribunal that is trying the deposed junta leader and 31 associates for the Polytechnic massacre in which at least 24 protesters were killed in November, 1973, rejected the defendant's appeal which, rather presumptuously, invoked the maxim that "the king can do no wrong."

Justice Ioannis Kousoulas, the president of the court, said: "The revolt of April 21, 1967, was a coup d'etat. Therefore all the governments which served the regime were governments imposed by force. All their ministers and presidents of the republic did not exercise lawful power."

All 32 defendants pleaded not guilty.

The first witness for the pro-

## Papadopoulos plea for immunity rejected

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All 32 defendants pleaded not guilty.

The first witness for the pro-

secution was Mr Constantine Konofagos, Minister of Industry, who was rector of the Polytechnic University at the time of the uprising. He said: "The Polytechnic revolt is one of the darkest pages of Greek history."

The uprising had not been planned in advance. It had begun as a protest against the Government's decision to postpone elections in student unions. "It developed into a revolt for the liberation of Greece from the yoke of the dictatorship," he said.

He and the senate of the Polytechnic had repeatedly denied the police permission to enter the campus and disperse the sit-in. The senate was determined to defend the academic asylum, but also it was clear that a police raid would have ended in bloodshed. "Those die," Mr Konofagos said.

The leaders of the regime, instead of sending out the tanks to break into the campus, should have realized that the time had come for them to surrender power."

Both trials resume tomorrow.



## ME NEWS

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tyAirline pilots likely to  
strike next month

By Arthur Reed

Air Correspondent

All aircraft operated by

British airlines are likely to be

grounded for 24 hours on Nov-

ember 1 by a strike by their

flight crews. The pilots are

angry over increases in their

licence fees which are to be

charged from November 10 by

the Civil Aviation Authority.

The cost of a licence for an air-

line pilot is to go up from £10

for five years to £30 for 10

years.

A ballot among the 5,800

members of the British Airline

Pilots' Association produced a

majority in favour of industrial

action. The ballot result is to be

considered shortly by the association's

executive, but there seems to be

little doubt that it will endorse

the month-long strike.

The effects of a 24-hour strike

would be felt over the world

air network for up to three

days, as aircraft and crews

would be left out of position.

The executives were told that

the licence fees had been raised

as part of a plan to meet a

demand by the Government that

the authority should become

self-supporting by 1977-78. The

new rate would be increased

further in due course, until the

licensing of pilots was carried

out at an economy view.

In the financial year 1974-75,

the authority had to ask the

Government for a grant of

£24.5m, Lord Boyd-Carpenter

said.

The hearing continues on

Monday.

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Long-distance services would be

affected more than short routes.

Since this is the low season

for air travel, few people are

likely to be stranded. On most

routes foreign airlines would be

able to accommodate passengers

booked by British operators.

Lord Boyd-Carpenter, chair-

man of the Civil Aviation

Authority, called senior execu-

tives of all the British airlines

to his headquarters in London

yesterday to explain the situa-

tion.

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Baby died  
after court  
sent him back  
to hospital

Simon Lock, who was sent

back to Musgrove Park Hospi-

tal, Taunton, by a court order

after his mother had taken him

home, died after a brief stay

in hospital, it was learned

yesterday. He was aged 10 months

when he died, in August.

Mr Peter Smith, the West

Somerset coroner, was told that

the baby was admitted to the

hospital on July 10 and that

Mr Carol Lock, his mother,

took him home against medical

advice two days later.

A court order was obtained

after the coroner had been

informed by the NSPCC and the

hospital that the baby was

admitted to the hospital on

July 28. He died three

weeks later.

Det. Chief Inspector James

Marras, of the Taunton

report by Dr W. Kennard, a

Home Office pathologist, who

showed that the baby died of

anoxia following mechanical

asphyxia. The coroner said

that the baby had been

undergoing treatment for

respiratory distress.

Mr Leonard Small, of the

Department of Health and

Social Security, told the inquest

that the coroner had been

informed by the NSPCC and the

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## WEST EUROPE

British researcher is joint winner  
of Nobel chemistry prize  
while three share physics award

From Roger Choate

Stockholm, Oct 17

Professor John Warcup

Carnforth, director of research

at the MRC Laboratory of

Chemical Enzymology, Sitt-

ingbourne, today jointly won the

Nobel prize for chemistry.

The Royal Swedish Academy

of Sciences said that Dr Carn-

forth, who has been deaf since

childhood, had made "an out-

standing intellectual achieve-

ment" in his work on the

stereochemistry of enzyme-

catalyzed reactions.

Dr Carnforth, aged 58,

shares the £69,000 prize with

Professor Vladimir Prelog, of

the Federal Institute of Tech-

nology in Zurich, and Dr

Cornforth, who has been deaf

since childhood, had made "an

outstanding intellectual achieve-

ment" in his work on the

stereochemistry of enzyme-

catalyzed reactions.

The Academy conceded that

it was difficult to explain Dr

Carnforth's achievement in lay

terms, because the stereoche-

mistry of enzyme-catalyzed

reactions involves three-dimen-

sional geometry.

The work of Dr Carnforth

deals with the delicate mech-

anism of vital reactions in bi-

ological systems. His contribu-

tion has been to "mark" hy-

drogen bonds, a key feature of

the structure of atoms.

Dr James Rainwater, of Col-

umbia University, New York,

and Dr Niels Bohr, of the

Danish Institute of Atomic

Physics, Copenhagen, and

Professor Ben Motelson, of

Nordita, Copenhagen, share

the prize.

London: Professor Cornforth

said he was "very happy" and

was delighted to share the

prize with Dr Prelog. He

believed his work enabled peo-

ple to get a better understand-

ing of life processes and how

to use them in the direction of

better health.

Zurich: Dr Vladimir Prelog,

Yugoslav-born but a Swiss citi-

zen since 1959, said he was







# Oxford remembered

by Harold Macmillan

modest and decorous, not flaring marts of mass consumption. Still the changes are not so great as to destroy altogether the Oxford of my early memory. The essentials remain. But apart from the fine buildings, the splendid quadrangles, lawns, gardens, and the incredible numbers of books in the numerous libraries—what of the inhabitants? It was by their strange appearances that I was chiefly affected. They seemed to be so old; so odd; with such a look of having been through the mill of life. It was by the spectacle of these no doubt wise and learned, but queer-looking men that I was deeply impressed, with their caps and gowns, often carrying large call-bound volumes of knowledge. (The undergraduates, who then looked and dressed like anybody else, I scarcely noticed.) Occasionally one of these great men would recognise me and bow to my father, or stop for a few words of mumbled conversation. If this was my first and vivid impression—the antiquity and eccentricity of the inhabitants—the second was equally clear: what a great part Religion must play in their lives. For most of them were attired in clerical or semi-clerical costume. Moreover, apart from the college chancery, some of them seemed everywhere a mass of churches, some old and small, survivors of very early times, some large and of every age and style of architecture, but enough, one would have thought, in capacity to supply the needs of a teeming population.

However, there they were, and there seemed, at any rate, plenty of clergymen. I had never seen so many clergymen. Every other dignitary seemed to be in holy orders. No doubt I was misled to some extent by the white ties so widely sported then, but the impression had not altogether faded when I returned to Oxford as an undergraduate. Devout, learned, dignified, enjoying a wonderful sense of repose and peace—these were the rulers, or rather the servants of Oxford 70 years ago.

Thus, by a lucky chance, I was able (although in our little school in an adjacent village we were seldom brought into any direct contact with Oxford) by my father's shyness (to tour the colleges was better than forced conversation and futile questions), by his own considerable scholarship (he had been for 10 years classical master at St Paul's), by his sense of method and order, to become the happy

beneficiary of an unusual experience. Few boys between nine and 12 can have known so well at least the exterior of the University. I left Summerfields, and Oxford, in 1906. It was five years before I returned and then only for a few days. But in the interval I had learned something about the atmosphere of collegiate life. As a scholar at Eton, I had been privileged to belong to a famous community and "dwell in the pleasant places of perfect beauty". Our residence was a Tudor building on the north side of the great quadrangle, the noble chapel, on the west, the fine classic building; the Upper School. On the east, Lupton's tower, leading to the cloisters, where dwelt the solemn state the heads of our college body, of which we 70 scholars were also members—the Provost, Vice-Provost, Headmaster. So when, in the early summer of 1911, I entered the hall of Balliol, on my way to Balliol, I felt almost at home, although suffering from all the nervous anticipation of the examinee.

At that time, by a privilege which Balliol still proudly claimed (and I know not why) later weakly abandoned, the Balliol scholarship examination stood alone, in time as well as in intellectual prominence. It was held a week before all the other examinations, which followed closely behind in their various groups. This was a double advantage. It no doubt benefited the College; but it also relieved the most acute anxieties of the candidate. Failure at Balliol would not necessarily be final. It could be retrieved in the next stage. The horse might fall even to be placed in the Derby. But there was a good chance at subsequent race meetings.

Many will recall the first few terrifying moments in such examinations when you gazed, hurriedly, and almost trembling at the printed paper before you. It seems to have no meaning at all to convey no sense. What is it? Latin or Greek? It might be Hebrew. But as you try to collect and contemplate your thoughts, you glance round at your competitors. What clever fellows! They have all begun to write from the very first minute—apparently with easy confidence. Good heavens! Ten minutes have passed—they are running well down the course. You are still at the starting gate. I still have nightmares about examinations.

The afternoon sessions were not so bad. By the merciful decree of some kindly Master or Dean tea and plum cake were provided—not in my experience, like plum cake—especially for Greek imbibers. On the second—or perhaps the third—day there was another not unwelcome innovation in the evening work. A candidate was summoned for a viva-voce interview. This meant mounting from the Hall to the High Table, and going down a spiral staircase to a room below—the Common Room—where a number of grave but courteous men were assembled. On the left of the door, behind the High Table, I noticed a small picture—an extraordinary picture of a strange young man with a sad face and flaming hair. Of course, it was Swinburne. We had just begun to hear about Swinburne, although he was not altogether approved of in some circles. We liked his rhythms and his cadence, though we did not understand quite what it was all about. Did they like Swinburne here? Would it be a good thing to make a neat reference to Swinburne in the examination? I presented myself. No—better not. When I was faced by my judges, I felt quite definitely better not.

newcomers—freshmen—were formally received by a Hancock—most loved, most memorable and best remembered of college porters to whom a memorial tablet has been dedicated in the Lodge. My rooms were in the front quad—lofty, cold, inconvenient—but my own. Humphrey Sumner was just above or just below me. With him I formed a deep friendship, lasting until his untimely death, when he was Warden of All Souls. Although we concealed it, we were really a little ashamed of the front quad: nor could I ever bring myself to admire the chapel, so strangely resembling a hen sandwich, with gleaming slices of ham. It has been a great comfort to me that the whole thing has been rehabilitated by modern critics and the front quad of Balliol is now accepted as one of the gems of English architecture. All honour to John Betjeman, on whom Ruskin's mantle has fallen as Elijah's upon Elisha.

The first days and even weeks were naturally somewhat chaotic. One had to find old friends and make new friends. One had above all to learn a way of life. (This period was softened by the traditional breakfast parties given for freshmen by second and third-year men.) There was a mixture of comfort and hardship. It was wonderful to have hot breakfast and luncheon in one's room—left by the fire (with a tin cover to keep the food warm) by a most attentive "scout". But then we had to go to chapel or sign the book at the Lodge at 8 am on four mornings a week and we had to walk through the front quad and through the whole of the garden quad two or three hundred yards, to get a bath. To dine in Hall (which we did on most nights until we had joined the various clubs, the OUDs, the Jans, and the like) was a fine classical scholar. It was also the days of the greatest of the heroic days were already beginning to pass. The giants (my brothers' contemporaries), Asquiths, Grenfells, Charles Lister, Patrick Shaw-Stewart and the rest, were already almost a myth. Yet these men who had gone down a few years ago, since we had devoted some reputation in the world. Of my own generation most were already doomed.

To return to our dormitory. The course of two years was introduced to, and entertained by, a few heads of colleges or professors. Dr Strong, Dean of Christ Church, whom I met through some of my Eton friends, impressed me greatly. Dr Blinston, President of Trinity, I met occasionally in Ronald Knox's company—with the formidable Mr Raper. Professor Clark, who lectured on Theocritus with remarkable vigour, was kind to me and asked me to his rooms. Dr Warren, so cruelly lampooned by Raymond Asquith in his splendid piece in *Spectator's Life of Asquith*, asked me to lunch at Magdalen. I dined once at All Souls, and saw, but did not speak to, the great Sir William Anson (what a splendid evening—tail-coats and white ties and all possible formality). I went to Professor Haldane's house (the site of the new Wolfson College, for Jack

a weekly essay to the Master. The subject was pinned up in the Lodge, and there was a graceful repetition of these themes which proved valuable to some of us. On one such occasion (so the story ran) a young man, more endowed with athletic than intellectual prowess had borrowed for his purpose an essay which had already done yeoman service but was getting a little dog-eared and worn. He began confidently: "As Bophocles once said—the Master looked up. 'What did you say—Mr—er—?' I said as Bophocles once said: 'I suppose it's all right.' The Master let it pass."

Strachan-Davidson only really cared about one thing and one man. Cicero. He dreamed of Cicero; he lived for Cicero; he wrote of Cicero. Cicero was his hero and his inspiration. He was only just in time. For the first half of this century of progress was to be more noted for the end of constitutional government than its establishment in the world. As 2,000 years ago, the era of dictators was about to begin.

There were other leading members of Balliol Common Room in 1912. A. L. Smith, Dean and later Master—a great teacher and a good historian. Cyril Bailey and Pickard Cambridge—devoted tutors and fine scholars. Harold Hartley—who became a very distinguished scholar and administrator and lived on till a short time ago. Fluffy Davis—a notable historian.

Our chaplain and junior Dean was Neville Talbot, one of three remarkable sons of the old Bishop of Winchester. He was later Bishop of Pretoria. 6ft 3in in height—of great physique—he was a good junior Dean especially in a row. Last—but not least—indeed in my affectionate memory first—was E. F. Urquhart (Sligger), loved by many generations of Oxford men, in Balliol and throughout the University. He showed me a kindness which I could never repay but I can never forget. I remained a close friend and came constantly to see him until his death.

As for heads or dons in other colleges, I got to know some as I got to know friends in those colleges. Apart from Eton friends (mostly in Christ Church, but also in Merton, Trinity and New man Wykehamists), I also joined various university societies. I was indeed almost an addict of societies. Thus I got to know young men in other colleges. The Union (where I began tentatively to aspire to success) brought me into touch with a varied company. Then I joined the OUDs—more to dine than to act.















Continued from page 7

little philosophy, ha

of the Lincolne speech. A brilliant Greek epigram by Henry Broadbent remains in my memory.

Ἐν τῷ Ἀρχαίῳ δημοσίῳ λόγῳ  
αἰὶς—ταὺς τοὺς ἔχοντες λαοβορεῖ  
γεωργὸς ὢν.

In the suburb of Acharnæ a miracle of deniagogy—a farmer is denouncing land-owners.

It was as if a Cleon or a Danton had suddenly invaded our quiet academic groves.

I well remember the scene—the great force of police, the vast crowd of Town and Gown, the anxious protestors—all the show of the event, the great man came, saw, and conquered." I recall most vividly his wonderful performance—the rapid changes from grave to gay—from slow to quick—now menacing, now seductive; I still see the tremendous head, with the long raven-black hair. I did not see him again for six years. The noble head was there—more deeply lined—the great shock of hair was as white as snow.

Next religion. This played an important part in University life. There were a few atheists—many agnostics. Yet the great majority had been reared in the tenets of Anglicanism, Romanism or dissent. By and by they themselves were attached to church or chapel. There was consequently much talk among us about religion and much debate.

There were the different schools—those whom Dr. Rashdall and Dr Strceter were leaders—others to whom they were anathema. A notable book called *Foundation*, by Talbot and others, was quickly answered by another called *Foundations*. But, in spite of sharp controversy, the "odium theologium" of past times had been much softened.

The "odium economicum" which has dominated the greater part of my active life, had not yet developed. I knew there was something called economics, because I had been introduced to the great barded professor—at All Souls—Eugene St. Sure, most of us had not gone beyond Adam Smith.

There had begun, in a mild way, what I might call the "odium philosophicum". Bailiol held fast to the tradition of Kant-Hegel, promoted by T. H. Green and followed by E. A. Freeman. Another school called pragmatism began to emerge, supported by one Professor Schiller followed by William James, there was a turn outpouring of scorn and indignation. Now both of these are regarded as dead, and according to the latest fashion all concepts, which we were taught to regard as so profound

that they could scarcely be put into words, are now reduced to the words themselves. Humphrey Dumpty had something of the same idea.

So the weeks and months slipped by—all of us enjoying the present, confident of the future. The few hard-boiled, canoist ignorant of the incidents of the last century, the cataract below, might drift into consciousness to his fate.

Among the many agreeable features of Oxford life in those days were "reading parties" normally in the Easter or summer vacations. I went, in the spring of 1913 with a small party, led by Cyril Bailey, to a house in the West of Wiltshire, lived in modest Somerset. We walked and worked—and, of course, talked. In the summer of the same year, I was invited by Urquhart to his chalet above St. Gervais in Haute Savoie. This was a double thrill. I had never been abroad before except as a boy at Eton on a Hellenic cruise, surrounded by school-masters, headmasters, dons and archaeologists. To see Greece, or parts of Greece, was a great thing. But there was not much change of atmosphere. It was a school or college aloft.

Now—to go alone or with a young friend—this was quite another affair. Now it was a matter of exchanging a letter for another, all looking exactly the same. Second class on the train—First on the boat. A day or two in Paris with fine friends, and then back to the hotel, the celluloid hats; the restaurants the open-air cafés. I remember our hotel (a very modest one) was quaintly called *Hôtel du Portugal et de l'Université*. There was the joy and the excitement up in unfamiliar and romantic country. Then at last the mountains. It was a good stiff climb to the chalet, on the lower slopes of Mont Blanc. There was snow and walked—and even sometimes did a little modest climbing.

In the Lent term of 1914 I first succeeded in achieving my First in Honours Mods due to the wonderful teaching of our patient and tolerant tutor, who would have been something of a disgrace, and attributed to neglect of solid work for more specious attractions. Then came the summer term of 1914. Eight weeks of the most intense anxiety about Ireland in the political world, no other hint of danger. As so often happens in times of England's greatness danger 1914 (like 1940) was glorious summer—day after day, great breezes, a thick cloudless atmosphere with soft voluptuous breezes and a Mediterranean sky. There were

two years and more before Harry There was little to be done but collect our books, to go—for form's sake—to a few lectures—and to enjoy ourselves. I remember attending at least the opening lecture of a course by J. A. Smith—a great English hero and friend of my old friend, the late Sir Professor of Moral Philosophy, and had accordingly to leave Balliol for Magdalen. I am not sure that he was as happy as in his old college. Generous as the provisions are for supporting professorships, they sometimes involve painful changes. Of one of these which could be said *Cadunt non minimum mutat*.

Although I have no recollection of the subject, I have never forgotten the lecturer's opening words: "Gentlemen—upon a course of these which I shall occupy you for two years. Together, they form a noble adventure. But I would like to remind you of an important point: some of you, when you go down from this university will go into the Church, or to the Bar, or to the House of Commons, to the Home Civil Service, to the Indian or Colonial Services, or into government professions. Some may go into the army, into industry and commerce; some may become country gentlemen. A few—I hope a very few—will become teachers or dons. Let me make this clear to you. Except for the last, for nothing that you will learn in the course of your studies will be of the slightest possible use to you in after life—save only this: that if you work hard and intelligently, you should be able to detect when a man is wrong, rot, and that, in my view, is the main, if not the sole purpose, of education."

There have been worse definitions.

During the summer weeks, we played tennis, cricket, we punted, we bathed, we had luncheon and dinner parties. We lazed in the quiet reading of Dostoevsky (who had just been discovered). Occasionally, we went to London to the Russian war and the Russian peace (as then the rage). We could only afford the gallery—but, after some experience, I prefer the gallery. It adds to the sense of unreality.

When I spoke at the Union (I was then junior treasurer) and was elected junior librarian—unopposed (the only such occasion in a lifetime of electoral adventures).

At last it came to an end. But pleasure was only postponed. I had arranged to go again, with other friends, to Urubart's chateau in the first week in August. Everything was prepared—until I remembered Herodotus and Plato (it was then still). There were some troubles about the Balkans. But there was a Balkan crisis every year, and Sir Edward Grey would settle it. Anyway, on July 1, the Foreign Secretary was a fish and the sun broke the ice; the ice fell. After a few days of confusion, we were all seeking frantically some way of getting to the front before Christmas. It was sure to be over by Christmas.

Meanwhile, instead of the reading party, instead of returning to the pleasant rooms and quadrangles, we found ourselves in the less congenial, if more robust atmosphere, of the parade ground.

I did not go back to Oxford after the war. It was not just that I was ill, or that there were plenty of cripples. But I could not face it. To me, it was a city of ghosts. Of our eight scholars and exhibitors who came up in 1912, Humphrey Sargant and I alone were alive. It was too much.

Nor could I bring myself to come often to Oxford for many years—except to see old friends and dear friends—like Cyril Bage, a clear young Sumner (when he returned to the Old Palace) Ronald Knox. Gradually I came more often—but with a strange sense of guilt.

Now, as Chancellor, I come from the world of the Summs often as I dare. I admire the new Oxford—its opportunities, its aspirations, its achievements. I particularly enjoy being Visitor of some men's colleges and of the women's colleges, to follow with sympathy the problems of youth—far more difficult than those with which we were confronted. Thus, to watch the new Oxford and its teeming and the old, the old, the old, to me. Yet the old Oxford is, after all, my first love.

In trying to give some picture of those days I know well that I look back through somewhat of a misty glass. Yet the picture is vivid and real to me. Or is it, perhaps, after all, a dream?

Mr Harold Macmillan's latest book, *The Past Masters*, will be published by Macmillan on October 27 at £4.50. In it he reviews the work of a selection before his own. This article is based on a speech which he made in Oxford earlier this year and has been written especially for *The Times*. It may appear in a further book of reflections at a later date.

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Harry Golombek's chess article this week appears on page 14. The next chess article is by the Good Food Guide has been held over.

# Bridge

## Pointed criticism

The quest for the perfect contract brings in its train unexpected problems. Recent experiences have convinced me that there is much reliance placed on the part of many players by unimaginative players. The weak opening No trump is now the most popular convention and for no particular reason it is limited to 13 points whilst the Two No trumps opening continues to be based upon 22 points. These valuations are designed to restrict speculative responses, although chances can favour games and slams which may be missed through approach bidding.

Opposite a weak No trump South holds a balanced hand consisting of ♠ AKQ42 ♥ 753 ♦ J2 ♣ 1064. The fact that there are five spades which will provide a certain contract in that suit is not the most important feature. As the ♠s have four spades and the pattern of his hand may be the commonest namely 4-4-3-2; it does not follow that game in Spades is more probable than in No trumps nor are there more than eight tricks in No trumps between the two hands.

Where there is a borderline game, bidding tends to incorporate the Stayman convention and then takes this form:

1 No trump—South 2 Clubs—North 2 Diamonds—South 2 Spades—North 2 No trumps—South No. Because he has learned that there are not 25 points in high card strength, he expects the possibility that his partner will take four tricks with the lead up to the hidden hand and that dummy's spades will produce five tricks; if nine tricks mature he explains that there have been lucky breaks; and North is also satisfied because through excessive theory he has become a perfectionist. Both partners see their values in numbers instead of in real terms. South may decide to make one more bid, but it is likely to be Three Spades instead of Three No trumps, because he has learnt to play for safety and he knows nothing of North's hand except that it does not have a four-card major. It is not long past at this juncture because he has helped the defenders by his employment of Stayman when he could have risked an immediate raise to Three No trumps. There is no way of avoiding speculation if you stick to the cardinal principle of never missing a game.

Although it is essential,

whenever possible to keep the stronger hand concealed you need not rely on a conventional. The bidding of the next hand was both old-fashioned and poor. South should have raised immediately to Six No trump instead of inviting the lead through his partner's 22 point hand.

No score; dealer West.

♠ 985  
♥ 7  
♦ 10885  
♣ 18543

♠ AQ2  
♥ Q13  
♦ AK7  
♣ A9K

♠ K174  
♥ 852  
♦ J93  
♣ K106

♠ 103  
♥ AK109864  
♦ Q2  
♣ 742

West North  
No 3 No trumps  
No 3 Clubs  
No 3 Spades  
No 3 Hearts

East South  
No 3 Clubs  
No 6 Hearts  
No 6 Spades  
No 6 Diamonds

West led the ♠8 which he thought would do less harm to the defence than any other lead and East's ♠J won when declarer played low from dummy. As trumps were returned and declarer decided to rely on ruffing out the ♠K for his twelfth trick. This plan failed because East discarded after dummy. After two rounds of trumps, declarer could have cashed his diamonds and the ♠A, played off his remaining trumps, and squeezed East between the ♠K7 and ♠K. A Vienna coup is usually more satisfactory than an attempt to ruff out a heart because it may enable declarer to obtain a count of the defenders' hands from their discards on his long suit, leaving the way open for either a squeeze or a finesse.

\* \* \*

For those who cannot afford the time and money for luxury cruises where Victor Molin teaches "the language of inference" he has assembled in book form his lessons for converting a beginner into a club player. *Instant Bridge* (Faber & Faber, £3-95) is not quite the "text" book one would expect to find because it takes there is more to bridge than can be explained in 130 pages of lessons and 20 pages of standard tables. However, it has the merit of guiding the way to deduction and keeping it separate from valuation and convention. I do not like the funny pictures, but that is a personal antipathy.

Edward Mayer

# Food for disaster

**3½oz sugar (to taste)**  
**1 pinch cinnamon**  
**Seeds**

For the caramel, combine the sugar and water in a small saucepan, bring it to a boil and adjust the heat to a bubble. Don't take your eyes off it, and remove it the instant it is a rich, deep amber colour (once it begins to colour, it advances very rapidly and 2 seconds may mean the difference between perfect caramel and burnt sugar). Pour in about 1 tablespoon hot water, stirring until thoroughly blended, and pour the caramel immediately into the mould, turning it in all directions to coat the mould as evenly as possible. When cooled, lightly oil or butter any parts of the inner walls of the mould that have not been coated with caramel.

Quarter, peel, core and slice the apples. Cook them with the water over high heat, stirring constantly with a wooden spoon, until just cooked—that is, reduced to a near-puree. Stir in the sugar and the cinnamon, pass through a sieve, and place in the mould. Mix the puree and the caramel mixture into the mould (an old-fashioned jelly mould works well), tap it on a wooden surface to settle the contents, and place in a boiling-water bath, in a

until tepid; then add, once unmoulded, the dessert cover, the mould just being well chilled.

A book of quite recent kind has also my attention recently. Mr. E. A. Norwak, author of a number of successful publications has written *Kitchen Antiques* by Ward Lock & Co. It will be of special interest to anyone who collects things from the white china jolly or lovely kitchen cabinets furniture. Traditions serve well to identify items that interest and are of a fascinating reading traces the development of the kitchen from when cooking was over the open fire to the introduction of electric and electrical items.

Mary Norwak gathers a country's worth of sterling work of interest of traditional recipes in her collection. In her collection of recipes in her recent book *The Folk Kitchen*: Ward Lock & Co. 1955. Lovely old-fashioned traditional house laws, local recipes in all kinds and a spring country crafts include like salting, smoking and home made

[illegible]

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Mr. and Mrs. Edward Grey

...and settle it. Anyway, on the Foreign Secretary fishing, then the second stroke; the axe fell. After a few days of confusion, we were seeking frantically some way getting to the farm before Christmas. It was sure to be by Christmas.

Meanwhile, instead of returning party, instead of returning to our rooms and card-drangles, we found ourselves the less congenial, if more sunnier atmosphere, of the made ground.

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Now, as Chancellor, I come frequently to Oxford—as often as I dare. I admire the new town—for its opportunities, its spirit, its achievement. Particularly enjoy being acquainted of some men's colleges. All the women's colleges. I am all sympathy with the problems now facing them. More than those with which we're confronted. Thus, to reach new Oxford and its teaching widening life, is a deep joy indeed. Yet the old Oxford is, or has been, far all.

In trying to give some picture of those days I know well that book back through somewhat faded spectacles. Yet the theme is vivid and real to me. It is, perhaps, after all, a dream?

**Harold Macmillan's latest book, The Past Masters, will be published by Macmillan on October 27 at £4.50. In it he describes the giants of a generation. This article is based on a speech which he gave in Oxford earlier this year has been written especially for The Times. It may appear in further book of reflections**

**Harold Macmillan 1975**

**Gary Golombek's chess article week appears on page 14. He's gardening about the Good Food Guide have a held over.**

The quest for the perfect contract brings in its train unexpected problems. Recent experiences have convinced us that such matters are placed on their point counts by unimaginative players. The weak opening No trump is now the most popular convention and for no particular reason it is limited to 13 points whilst the two No trumps opening continues to be based on 22 points. These valuations are designed to restrict speculative responses, although chances can favour games and slams which may be missed through approach bidding.

Opposite a weak No trump South holds a balanced hand consisting of ♠ AKQ42 ♥ 753 ♦ J2 ♣ 1064. The fact that there are five spades which will provide certain control in that suit is not the most important feature. North may have four spades and the pattern of his hand may be common enough simply because it does not follow that game in Spades is more probable than in No trumps nor that there are more than eight tricks in No trumps between the two hands.

There are three main aspects to the game, bidding tends to incorporate the Stayman convention and then takes this form: North 1 No trump—South 2 Clubs—North 2 Diamonds—South 2 Spades—North 3 No trumps—South No. Because he has learned that there are not 25 points in high cards South rejects the possibility that his partner will take four tricks while he leads and he has the hand and that dummy's spades will produce five tricks; if nine tricks mature he explains that there have been lucky breaks and North is also satisfied that his own theory he has become a perfectionist. Both partners see their values in numbers instead of in real terms. South may decide to make one more bid, but it is likely to be the Spade instead of Three. No trumps, because he has learnt to play for safety and he knows nothing of North's hand except that it does not have a four-card major. He is perhaps wise to put off at this juncture until he has helped the defenders by his employment of Stayman when he could have risked an immediate raise to Three No trumps. There is no way of avoiding speculation if you surmise that the cardinal principle of never missing a game.

Although it is essential whenever possible to be the stronger hand concealed you need not rely on conventional bidding of the next hand was both old-fashioned and poor. South should have raised immediately to Six No trumps instead of inviting the lead through his partner's 22 point hand.

No score ; dealer West.

♠ A87  
♥ QJ3  
♦ AKQ  
♣ A97

K174  
S82  
J93  
K100

W S

♠ 103  
♥ K10864  
♦ 762  
♣ Q2

West North East South  
No 4 No 4 No 4 No 4  
Spades 2 Spades 2  
No 2 Spades 6 Hearts

West led the ♠8 which he thought would do less harm to the defence than any other lead and East won when declarer played low from dummy. A trump was returned and declarer decided to rely on ruffing out the ♠K for his twelfth trick, but failed because East discarded after dummy. After two rounds of trumps declarer could have cashed his diamonds and the ♠A, played off his remaining ♠K and squeezed East between the ♠K7 and ♠K. A Vienna coup is usually more satisfactory than an attempt to ruff out a key card because it may enable declarer to obtain a count of his own cards without sacrificing his discards on his long suit leaving the way open for either a squeeze or a finesse.

\* \* \*

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**Edward Mayer**

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# With New York in the hands of a receiver, we examine the background of financial mismanagement

## How things turned sour for the 'Big Apple'

New York City is broke, and on the surface at least for much the same reason why Britain would be broke if it was not for the promise of North Sea oil. It is a city dominated by trade unions led by militants and not a Jack Jones in sight. They have shamelessly over-manned the municipal services and held the city fathers to ransom for years.

It has one municipal civil servant for every 20 citizens, twice as many as in Chicago, and yet the city is falling apart. Behind that impressive and occasionally breath-taking skyline are slums that would shame some Middle Eastern cities.

No wonder President Ford is appalled, and has refused to

come to the rescue with federal aid. For this small-town conservative from Grand Rapids, Michigan, New York City is a horrifying example of bureaucratic socialism run wild. Clearly the city should put its own house in order, but Mayor Abe Beame and his predecessors are not entering to blame.

New York and other American cities are the victims of the federal system. Constitutionally, they do not exist. They are the charity wards of the states whose legislatures are more often than not dominated by rural interests. The record shows that they have rarely received their fair share of state revenues although they generate much of the wealth as well as most of the problems. They are nevertheless expected

to shoulder burdens which in other countries would be assumed by the national government. For instance, there is no national assistance under the American federal system. When poor blacks leave Mississippi for New York, the city must take care of them. The state helps grudgingly, Washington provides matching funds, but the city has to pay much more than it could ever afford.

London, Leeds or Manchester could not survive in such circumstances, but these political facts are ignored in the White House and in the suburban sanctuaries where little Gerald Ford has escaped from their civic responsibilities. It is easier to blame the profligacy of City Hall, and in any case

Middle America has always tended to dislike and resent New York.

Their resentments are piled one on the other like rock strata. At the bottom are the memories of eastern bankers and railroad barons who in the last century screwed honest farmers and traders. Then come the layers of prejudice against Catholics and Jews, intellectuals and liberals. Near the surface is the small-town envy of the big city, the Puritanical rejection of Babylon, and apprehension of its ideas, energy, quick wits and largeness of spirit.

The resentments nurture the belief that New York City is not America, and in a way this is true. It is certainly not Grand Rapids or Dubuque. It

is the home of the New York Times and the New Yorker, of the Lincoln Centre and the television networks, of Broadway and Off Broadway, and of the great publishing houses as well as of Wall Street and the multi-nationals.

No other big American city can be compared with it; not Boston nor San Francisco, and certainly not Chicago. The United States would survive if New York could be cut loose and floated off into the Atlantic, as Senator Barry Goldwater once suggested, but it would be a mean, provincial country. New York, not Washington, is the nerve centre, the storehouse of the nation's adrenalin. It is a great city.

Louis Heren

## A dramatic lesson for other American cities in the self-inflicted wounds of New York

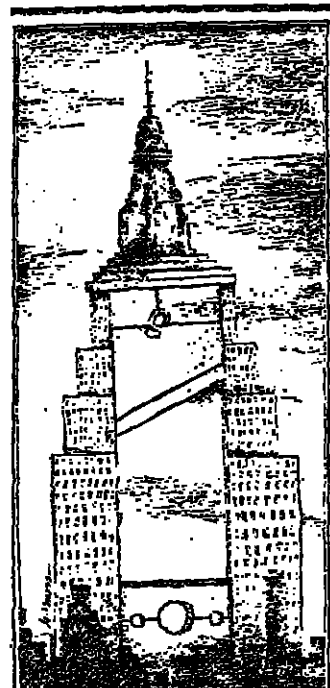
Washington, Oct 17

New York City is in the hands of a receiver. Its democratic management has been suspended indefinitely. The 'Big Apple', as it is widely and affectionately known in the United States, is as colourful, dramatic, vivacious and cosmopolitan as ever. It is also flat broke, unable to pay creditors and the 300,000 city employees.

The bills are now being paid by the State of New York, with reluctant help from some banks and even some municipal employees' pension funds. The mayor, Mr Abraham Beame, has been deprived of all power and prestige, and the running of the city is for the moment in the hands of the Governor of New York State, Mr Hugh Carey, and a team of businessmen.

A series of desperate attempts was made to stave off bankruptcy, but the city ran out of cash in early September, and only a last-minute rescue by New York State saved it from defaulting on its debt repayments.

Some people ask why the federal government has refused aid to New York when it helped such companies as Penn Central and Lockheed. When a company runs out of cash and cannot borrow, a receiver is appointed to save what can be saved, liquidate assets, and reorganize if possible. New York City is not a company; it cannot sell Central Park or State Island, it cannot dislodge its policeman, its cleaners, its firemen, teachers and hospital workers. But New York City is a most interesting political animal than Penn Central or any large corporation. Whenever President Ford travels he meets people who dislike New York, the centre of sophistication, the place that is almost always one step ahead of the nation, and knows it. The President meets people from Michigan and Kansas who, as Mayor Alexander of Syracuse, in upper New York State, noted the other day, would like to see "that great old lady, New York City, rub its nose in the dirt". Bashing New York City seemed like good politics to Mr Ford already run-



ning hard to win next year's Presidential election.

New York's troubles are largely of its own making. Gracie Mansion, home of the city's mayor, has been controlled for decades by the big trade unions. In return for electoral victories, mayors traditionally made city jobs available to friends of local borough bosses and union leaders. The municipal payroll grew and grew. One estimate on the eve of the administration's collapse after Mayor Beame fell in with the demands of local bosses and unions, ensuring that the city's employees were the highest paid of any municipality in the country, were granted the highest pensions—sometimes higher than those given to private industry—and enjoyed a lack of supervision.

City employees account for 50 per cent of the municipal budget. Their wages vary, but are high by any standards—£9,000 a year for a street cleaner, more than £2,500 for an ordinary policeman. Pensions are deter-

mined by the final year's income, so workers do masses of overtime in their last year of service.

Poor administration has been only one of the city's difficulties. For decades New York has been the great magnet for immigrants, financing and sheltering many of them, who later became assets to the country. Mayor Landrieu of New Orleans maintains that the cost of caring for these immigrants—most recently, thousands of Puerto Ricans—to New York City is more than £500m a year.

Also, New York has been a most compassionate city, providing welfare, housing and education at little or no cost, when other municipalities have been more hard-hearted. It pioneered free university education. It provided the most expensive financial support schemes, which became magnets for the blacks of the south and America's rural poor.

Although New York does not have defence expenditure or official foreign budget pay-

ment costs to reckon with it still has an annual budget more than three times as great as that of the centre of international banking Switzerland: a budget that is only a fraction smaller than Belgium's and not much below Australia's.

Yet the city's £6,200m a year is a modest sum, when compared to the national United States budget of about £175,000m just as New York's deficit of about £400m is small compared to the likely federal deficit of £35,000m. Such comparisons have led some New Yorkers to comment firstly, "Surely Washington can lend us a dollar", and secondly, "Look, you are really irresponsible. Our deficit is less than one-fifth of our budget, while the nation's deficit is now soaring beyond 20 per cent of the budget."

While the city's administration expanded its cost base, its policies swelled the expenditure side of the balance sheet, so the strength of the revenue side deteriorated. Business executives moved their homes in ever greater numbers to suburb, beyond the city limits, while maintaining city offices and taking full advantage of many city services. A growing number of big companies moved to less expensive and less crowded cities. City taxes—the highest in the country, consisting of city income, sales and property taxes—were a prime cause of these moves, which served as a warning that further tax increases could lead to a still greater deterioration of the city's revenues. This point did not seem to have registered with those officials and President Ford who called for higher city taxes.

Erosion of jobs in the city has been a big headache for the budget directors, with a decline of 250,000 jobs between 1963 and 1973 and a further decline of 115,000 jobs from mid-1974 to mid-1975. At the same time the payroll at City Hall actually rose by 136,000 between 1963 and 1973, so the numbers dependent on the taxpayers for their income were growing almost as rapidly as the number of private taxpayers was shrinking.

The budget this fiscal year compared to one of about £1,700m in 1964, and despite the financial strains of the past year—the need for prudence—the city's budget this year is £800m greater than it was in fiscal year 1974-75.

All these developments moved the city inevitably towards financial disaster. The ever-growing deficits became a game of piling bad debt upon bad debt, and the interest costs of these debts added all the more to the deficits. A day of reckoning had to come, and it came with a vengeance on April Fool's Day this year, when the credit rating agencies, who determine the credit-worthiness of borrowers, decided that New York City was not credit-worthy.

At first it looked as if the city only needed short-term financing to get it out of deep water. But the decision by the rating agencies sent shockwaves through the financial community, which immediately raised borrowing costs to all municipalities. It also smashed investors' confidence in New York and even in some State agencies, forcing one into default. Yet the crisis seemed containable, especially when a leading Wall Street banker was appointed to clean up the mess.

Mr Felix Rohatyn, a partner of Lazard Freres who engaged in private equity and dramatic mergers in United States corporate history, set up the Municipal Assistance Corporation, swiftly raised some cash, scoured the city's balance sheets and discovered the surplus. He also found that the city had been managed so badly for so long that, in the midst of a national economic recession when unemployment was at its highest rate in 30 years and businesses were generating less tax revenue than ever, the city faced a desperate crisis.

It was mainly Mr Rohatyn who persuaded Governor Carey to involve the New York State in the city's problems, establish an emergency financial control board and to strip Mayor Beame of all effective power. That was in early September and today, with busi-



nessmen making most of the decisions, a plan is finally being put together that could reform New York City.

The architects of this plan are not subject to the same trade union pressures as the city officials, nor do they have an electorate to face. They can take the tough decisions that most politicians would shy away from. New York City needs to raise about £2,000m between now and next June just to meet current debts and its payroll.

Mr Rohatyn and his colleagues are planning big redundancies, trimming expenditures and a programme to cut £100m of this year's deficit and achieve a balanced budget within three years. But the city needs time. The aid programme worked out by the New York State for £150m will keep New York City's creditors at bay until early December.

After early December the city will need federal money to provide the breathing space for the new budget-cutting plans to be put into operation. All the New York experts agree that the best solution is for the federal government to

provide £1,500m to £2,500m of Government guarantees for new special New York City Bonds.

The Government has every reason to support New York. It is the real capital of America, its business and cultural centre. The city is a supreme national asset, generating imaginative and constructive ideas to fuel the industrial heartland, engineering the means and mechanisms to finance the budgets of local, state and federal governments and domestic and foreign corporations, sucking in and around the globe masses of invisible earnings and pouring out social, political and cultural ideas of a sort unrivalled by any other American centre and of immeasurable value.

Chancellor Helmut Schmidt of West Germany has said that a dangerous international financial crisis would result if New York defaulted on its debts. Mr Brenton Harries, president of the agency that withdrew the credit rating last April, said there would be violence in the city streets if the federal government did not come to the rescue. Mayor Wise of Dallas

said a default would ripple across the country, forcing every municipality to pay much more for its money.

Leading New York bankers said that there could be a great undermining of confidence in the nation's banks if the city defaulted because the banks held a great proportion of the city's debt and the losses could be vast. Philadelphia, Detroit and Newark, all cities with grave problems, could follow New York into default. New York state could be bankrupt by the spring.

According to Dr Arthur Burns, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, foreign investors might lose confidence in America's chances of economic recovery—and the recovery itself could be threatened. Mr Peter Klomach, a leading Frankfurt broker who was in New York last week, said the only reason why the dollar had not fallen sharply and foreign investments had not been withdrawn on a grand scale from New York, was that foreigners simply could not believe that the city would default.

Frank Vogl

### Sportview

## Speedway: thrills and spills for all the family

Barry Briggs, four times the world speedway champion, had his last ride for his team, the Wimbledon Dons, this week. Now aged 40 he came into the game when it was at the height of its post-war, pre-television boom. During his career he has seen it decline virtually to the point of extinction, and he has been part of the phenomenal revival which now sees speedway established as the second biggest spectator sport in Britain today.

Six million people will have watched the sport in 1975 by the time the season ends in a fortnight. Weekly attendances at the nearly 40 tracks throughout the country regularly reach 250,000. Only football is a greater public attraction.

Yet as recently as the late 1950s the sport was all but dead. Attendance figures had dropped spectacularly. The organization and management of the sport was in a mess. At one time only nine tracks were in use.

The early 1950s saw the beginning of the revival. The structure was reorganized. A new kind of promoter began operating. Instead of being in the hands of enthusiastic but often inept amateurs, speedway promotion became a slick professional enterprise.

Today speedway is big business as well as a popular sport. This is not only true of Britain. Scandinavia, Poland, Czechoslovakia, the Soviet Union, Australia and New Zealand are all experiencing a similar boom.

It is estimated that the leading riders, the star names like the two four-times world champions Ivan Mauger and Barry Briggs have been earning a minimum of £20,000 a year recently. Younger stars, like Peter Collins and current world champion Ole Olsen, are in the same bracket. A good rider in Britain's first division (the British League) would probably earn around £5,000 during a season.

The bread-and-butter of speedway in Britain is the league match. The League consists of 18 teams and the second division, the New National League, has twenty. Every team has two league matches every week between March and October. Broadly, each track has a promoter responsible for



Barry Briggs: hero-worship and £20,000 a year.

its administration and a team attached to it. Riders are under contract to the promoters, and there is an equalization system to ensure that the top-class riders are spread evenly over all teams, so the contests are evenly fought.

On top of the league matches, there are regional and national individual championships, international matches, team and individual world championships (Britain has won the world team prize five years running) and various invitation events. For all these, riders are paid both for participating and by results. A rider in demand will often be in action, here and abroad, six times a week.

Supervising all these activities is the Speedway Control Board, which is at the same time a rule-making, disciplinary, and licensing authority. It has jurisdiction over all aspects

The casual onlooker might have difficulty in understanding the wide appeal of the sport. Races seem dull and uniform both in structure and tactics. There are four riders in each race. All races are over four laps of a shale surface track (usually constructed in a greyhound or football stadium). Tracks average between 350 and 400 yards per lap. An evening's meeting consists of 13 heats followed by some six or seven invitation races. The point-scoring system, like the format of a race, is simple and fixed, whether the event is international, league or friendly. The rider who comes first in a race gets three points, the second two and the third one.

In the vast majority of races the result is determined within the first few seconds, because whoever manages to take the lead from the starting tapes and

around the first bend has an advantage which, barring accidents or a spectacular spill, often it appears almost miraculous that, with four machines following each other at speeds of up to 60 miles per hour with only centimetres between them, bad accidents are comparatively rare. In fact deaths or serious injuries are few, although broken limbs and bones are the regular and accepted burden of any speedway rider.

There is another aspect to the sport which has undoubtedly contributed to its popularity. A speedway meeting has an atmosphere of friendliness about it. It is something which the whole family can enjoy. Parents and children can attend without the fear of violence on the terraces or buggery on the way home. Last month 85,000 spectators watched the world individual championships at Wembley. There were no incidents. There was no trouble, no invasions of the playing area, no arrests. The same is true of league matches.

Partly, especially for the young, the pleasure lies in supporting a particular team and the hero-worship of some of the riders. The supporters' clubs scene, with its badges and banners, photographs and slogans, team tee-shirts, coaches to away matches, social dances and parties, is a feature of the sport.

There are others for whom the excitement is visual, the beauty of four riders symmetrically sliding their cycles around a corner at an angle that seems to defy gravity, the shale from the track surface spurring out from the wheels in a perfect arc.

And there is always the ever-present and often fulfilled promise of a spectacular spill. Often it appears almost miraculous that, with four machines following each other at speeds of up to 60 miles per hour with only centimetres between them, bad accidents are comparatively rare. In fact deaths or serious injuries are few, although broken limbs and bones are the regular and accepted burden of any speedway rider.

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The spectacular increases in attendances in recent years will probably level out now, and most of the sport's administrators foresee steady rather than sharp growth in the next few years. There is no dearth of good young riders coming into the sport. Despite the economic climate most promoters are making money, or at least not losing any. The future looks good for speedway to settle down and become permanently accepted as one of the country's major sports instead of leading the yo-yo existence it has had since it first came to Britain nearly 50 years ago.

Marcel Berlins

## Tories' last chance to prove Mr Wilson wrong?

George Hutchinson

No-one will watch the Tory revival—now in the making—except the Tories. Mr Wilson, for he is the best student in the country of shifting political fortunes and party tactics, his own and other people's. No single scrap of evidence will escape his roving eye. Knowing more about the Tories than the Tories know themselves, he will be weighing up every probability with one consideration in mind: Labour's survival at the next general election.

Despite all the internal strife he is still holding his party together, at least in a nominal sense (for there are really two Labour parties), and keeping his Government going in the House of Commons. He has been able to do so by grace of the Opposition, which—acting in the national interest—has saved his economic policy (and perhaps the economy itself) from destruction at the hands of the left.

Thus protected by the Conservatives, he has pushed on with his general programme of socialization, not quite as fast or as far as the left would wish, but doing enough to give Mr Milward and the like some limited satisfaction while affording the Tories nothing except the knowledge that they have become one of his indispensable props. It is a most ironical combination of circumstances, marvellous for Mr Wilson, meddlesome to Mrs Thatcher and her party.

But what else could the Tories do? They have no alternative in putting country before party. If Labour chooses to reverse that order, so much the worse for Labour in the ultimate test at the polls, and for the Government's reputation in the meanwhile.

With the rising Conservative spirit the state is now being put for the huddle—and it will be one of the greatest in our parliamentary history—in doubt whether Labour is established as what Mr Wilson likes to call the natural governing party or whether Britain, under Mrs Thatcher's guidance, returns to an older tradition, less liable to disruption by change and disruption, freer from the gathering menace of a greedy and autocratic bureaucracy and devoted, above all, to social stability.

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The capture of Mrs Thatcher's extreme right-wing or even on to unpopable ideas is merely absurd—no history to anyone who knows history, and it makes the kindly Sir Keith's position of the seat and never has been, although it is true that her feelings are often a shade to the right of centre, rather than to the left. In that she is certainly closer to the Conservative Party today than her detractors can understand, and just imagine Mrs Thatcher as inwardly fired by some richer combination of

illiberal, crushing and narrow character, she would not be able to impose it on the Tories. Why not? Because she is surrounded in the shadow cabinet—a committee of her own choice—a collective leadership—by people who would not stand for it.

Her deputy, after all, is Mr Whitelaw, a Baldwinian figure well attuned to the national temperament. Mr Whitelaw would not be present unless he thought well of Mrs Thatcher. Nor would Mr James Prior, another of the best in the party, considerate, open-minded, tolerant. Nor would Sir Geoffrey Howe. Nor would Mr Norman St John-Stevas. I need hardly extend the list: it is replete with people of similar outlook and calibre, most of whom would not stand for it.

They would have joined Mrs Thatcher unless they knew her to be a person of reason, moderation and goodwill. They know, too, that she is a lady of exceptional courage and tenacity. Mrs Thatcher, in other words, is a woman of character as well as office, but without a touch of the authoritarianism.

At the Conservative conference in Blackpool I ran into one of the activists in the so-called Tory Reform Group. He was wringing his hands—he seemed quite desperate—over what he saw as an alarming right-wing trend in the party leadership.

The self-styled reformers have invented a boy for themselves to fit at nobody else's except the party's declared opponents. Their energies are misdirected, their enterprise misjudged, deriving as it does from a number of fanciful perceptions. If they cannot understand their own leader, or the mood of their own party, how can they hope to contribute much to the national debate?

This is rather a pity, because the three component parts of the group were worthwhile in single entities. In combination they will have little, if any influence on the party's future. Under Mrs Thatcher, however, it is not always a good thing, and often a very bad thing, to be one of the lessons to be learned from the experience of the Conservative government. Mrs Thatcher and her immediate colleagues have learnt it, for which we can all feel thankful.

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everything the Chancellor said in his Mansion House speech on Thursday about the difficulties of forecasting and monitoring the budget deficit in the current financial year was true. However, also were the comments made by the Governor of the Bank of England about the importance of controlling the impact of this important weapon in economic policy. That after all is the treasury's *raison d'être*.

from Mr Edwin Apps  
r. Has it occurred to Mrs Castle  
ar the doctors might stay here if  
he emigrated?  
ours faithfully,  
EDWIN APPS,  
Vanbrugh Hill,  
Hackney.



















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|                   |         |
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| 20th Century Bank | 12 1/2% |
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| 98  | 94      | Deborah Services  | 96         | —        | 5.7 7.8 5.1  |
| 132   | 90      | Henry Sykes       | 132        | —        | 4.9 3.8 8.8  |
| 61  | 18      | Twinkl Ord        | 20         | —        | 0.9 4.6 4.9  |
| 66  | 45      | Twinkl 12% ULS    | 65         | —        | 12.0 18.5    |
| 62  | 48      | Unilock Holdings  | 61         | —        | 4.5 7.4 11.8 |

## MARKET REPORTS

### Foreign Exchange

The dollar made modest progress on foreign exchanges yesterday although business was slack during the afternoon with many operators marking time as the deadline neared for averting a default by the New York City administration. The general feeling was that all 11th-hour rescue plans would emerge, but the climate in many overseas centres became increasingly nervous as the day progressed.

The pound remained in a narrow band for much of the session, and it made small headway during the final period, its effective rate ending the day better at 29.5 pence. This improvement stemmed from satisfaction with the United Kingdom retail price index, which showed the first real fall for more than a year. The pound rose 25 points to \$2.0580.

Gold rose \$1.50 an ounce to \$145.

### Spot Position of Sterling

|                            | Market rates<br>(Dollars per gram) | Market rates<br>(Dollars per ounce) |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|                            | October 1                          | October 1                           |
| New York                   | \$2.0580-0583                      | \$2.0700-0703                       |
| Montreal                   | \$2.1090-1173                      | \$2.1190-1170                       |
| Amsterdam                  | 5.41-00-00                         | 5.41-00-00                          |
| Brussels                   | 70.30-30                           | 70.30-30                            |
| Copenhagen                 | 12.30-30                           | 12.30-30-34                         |
| Frankfurt                  | 12.30-30                           | 12.30-30                            |
| London                     | 94.50-00                           | 94.50-70                            |
| Madrid                     | 12.30-70-70                        | 121.00-70                           |
| Milan                      | 12.30-30                           | 12.30-30                            |
| Osaka                      | 11.00-30                           | 11.00-30-34                         |
| Paris                      | 0.03-04                            | 0.03-04                             |
| Stockholm                  | 0.03-04                            | 0.03-04                             |
| Switzerland                | 0.03-04                            | 0.03-04                             |
| Vienna                     | \$7.20-50-50                       | \$7.20-50-50                        |
| Zurich                     | 0.03-04                            | 0.03-04                             |
| Effective                  | since Oct. 1, 1971                 | since Oct. 1, 1971                  |
| down 0.1 to 25.5 per cent. |                                    |                                     |



ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Monday. Dealings End Oct 31. § Contango Day, Nov. 3. Settlement Day, Nov 11  
 § Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.  
 As we were unable to update this page yesterday, the changes are on Wednesday's prices.

## Losses in gilts

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Begin, Monday. Dealings End Oct 31. § Contango Day, Nov. 3. Settlement Day, Nov 11  
 § Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.  
 As we were unable to update this page yesterday, the changes are on Wednesday's prices.

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| Low Stock | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change | Yield | Dividend | Price | Change 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